



Agricultural Development staff available as speakers

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MADISON – Wisconsin’s fall harvest is wrapping up, which means the agricultural conference and meeting season is about to start. If you’re planning such a gathering or other agricultural event this winter, keep in mind that Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) staff are available to speak to your group on many subjects targeted to your audience.

Daniel Smith, administrator of DATCP’s Division of Agricultural Development, encourages industry professionals to take advantage of his staff’s professional experience and technical knowledge. The division includes the Wisconsin Farm Center as well as numerous other programs to help grow local, regional and international markets.

“We strive to be a leader in the support and development of Wisconsin agriculture of all kinds,” Smith said. “Division of Agricultural Development staff can connect you with the tools you need to keep your business moving forward.”

The Wisconsin Farm Center staff can help your conference attendees better understand farm financial planning, next-generation ownership transitions, herd health or on-farm energy issues. Farm Center staff can also explain services available to minority farmers.

DATCP’s local food experts can speak about the aggregation, distribution and marketing of Wisconsin products. Your conference participants could learn how small- and mid-sized farms are forming food hubs and meeting wholesale, retail and institutional demands for locally grown or processed foods. They could learn about how the Something Special *from* Wisconsin™ branded program can increase their products’ competitiveness.

The Ag Business Services team is available to speak about the many opportunities out there for farmers and agribusinesses. DATCP specialists can teach your organization how to find new markets for specialty crops or about marketing meats with the Specialty Meat Development Center. They can also speak about grants and other tools available for Wisconsin farmers and processors or about how farmers could transition their operations into different types such as grass based or organic.

The demand for safe, nutritious Wisconsin products is growing around the world. Economic development consultants from the Wisconsin International Trade Team can talk to your group about the steps they can take to start or grow their exporting businesses. International staff can connect your audience with exporting resources and with markets around the world.

To learn more about DATCP’s Division of Agricultural Development programs, visit http://datcp.wi.gov/Programs/Agricultural_Development.

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